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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The policy of Government is to provide all reasonable facilities to industries in the State. In order to ensure a sufficient supply of raw materials at steady and reasonable prices for the plywood industry, the Government have ordered that softwood forest coupes in the South Kanara, Wynaad and Palghat forest divisions should be leased to the South Indian Plywood Manufacturers' Association, Feroke, at favourable negotiated rates, instead of being auctioned, as is being done in the case of other forest produce.

SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE : To what extent the Government purchases plywood from the existing plywood factories in Malabar?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Plywood is used in Government works only to a very small extent, viz., to provide wooden partition in buildings and making screens and such other items of furniture.

(* 2892 Q.—Postponed to 29th November 1955.)

Language test for Commercial Taxes Service

* 2893 Q.—SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state with reference to the answer to question No. 1466 given on 19th March 1955.

(a) whether the amendment introducing second-class language test for the Commercial Taxes Service has since been issued and if so, when;

(b) whether any officers of the department who have not passed any language test have been promoted and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Government will place a copy of the orders introducing the amendment on the table of the House?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : The particulars are furnished below :—

(a) Yes, Sir. In March 1955.

(b) No Sir.

(c) The amendment to the Special Rules for the Madras Commercial Taxes Service has been published as Notification No. 103, dated 8th March 1955 at page 384 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 16th March 1955. The notification may be referred to.

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : May I be informed, Sir, whether the spirit of the assurance given by the Hon. Minister on March 19, has been implemented with regard to the Assistant Commercial Tax Officers and Deputy Commercial Tax Officers?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : After the partition of Andhra a suitable change was made with regard to second language.

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SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR: My point is not with regard to Telugu. But, as far as the composite nature of this State exists, there are two languages and Tamil is a language which a majority of the people speak. There is no doubt about it. But, as long as State is of a composite nature, is it not obligatory on the part of the officer concerned to pass the other language test also?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: Yes, Sir. That is why Telugu was the second language then. But now, it is not so.

(* 2894 Q.—Postponed to 29th November 1955.)

Bifurcation of Thathiengarpet Panchayat Board.

* 2895 Q.—SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state-- 9-20 a.m.

(a) whether the villagers of Vadamalaipatty, Musiri taluk, Tiruchirappalli district, sent mahazars to the Government in December, 1954, requesting the Government to bifurcate the Thathiengarpet Panchayat Board and constitute a separate Panchayat for their village; and

(b) if so, whether the question of bifurcation was examined by the Government and if so, with what result?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI: (a) A petition, dated 17th March 1955 has been received by Government.

(b) The receipt of the report called for from the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards in the matter is awaited.

SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR: What are the main complaints made by the villagers of Vadamalaipatti to have bifurcation of the Thathiengarpet Panchayat Board and the constitution of a separate Panchayat for their village?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI: Their main complaints relate to the laying of roads, opening of a reading room and library and repairing of some dilapidated walls in the village. These things have already been done by the Government.

SRI V. K. RAMASWAMY MUDALIAR: What is the policy of the Government with regard to the bifurcation of the Panchayat Boards?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI: The old policy is continued.

SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR: Is it a fact that this is one of the several instances wherein there is a Panchayat comprising several villages and only one main village is benefited solely at the cost of the other villages?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI: There is no such thing.